

Amendments To The Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A sliding bearing comprising:  
a bearing alloy layer having a sliding surface; and  
a resin surface layer provided on the sliding surface of the bearing alloy layer and containing 20 to 95% by volume of polybenzimidazole as a base resin, and 5 to 80% by volume of a solid lubricant.

2. (Currently Amended) A sliding bearing comprising:  
a bearing alloy layer having a sliding surface;  
a bonding layer comprising a thermosetting resin and further comprising one or more of polyamide-imide, polyimide, epoxy resin and phenol resin, and provided on the sliding surface of the bearing alloy layer; and

a resin surface layer provided on the bonding layer and containing 20 to 95% by volume of polybenzimidazole as a base resin, and 5 to 80% by volume of a solid lubricant.

3. (Currently Amended) A sliding bearing according to claim 1, wherein the resin surface layer further contains not more than 5% by volume of hard particles comprising one or more of a nitride, an oxide and a carbide, and not more than 10% by volume of a soft metal comprising one or more of copper, silver, gold, aluminum, tin, zinc or alloys thereof.

4. (Currently Amended) A sliding bearing according to claim 2, wherein the resin surface layer further contains not more than 5% by volume of hard particles comprising one or more of a nitride, an oxide and a carbide, and not more than 10% by volume of a soft metal comprising one or more of copper, silver, gold, aluminum, tin, zinc or alloys thereof.

5. (Original) A sliding bearing according to claim 2, wherein the bonding layer contains a solid lubricant.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Original) A sliding bearing according to claim 4, wherein the bonding layer contains a solid lubricant.

8. (Original) A sliding bearing according to claim 1, wherein the bearing alloy layer comprises a copper alloy or an aluminum alloy.

9. (Original) A sliding bearing according to claim 2, wherein the bearing alloy layer comprises a copper alloy or an aluminum alloy.

10. (Original) A sliding bearing according to claim 3, wherein the bearing alloy layer comprises a copper alloy or an aluminum alloy.

11. (Original) A sliding bearing according to claim 4, wherein the bearing alloy layer comprises a copper alloy or an aluminum alloy.

12. (Original) A sliding bearing according to claim 5, wherein the bearing alloy layer comprises a copper alloy or an aluminum alloy.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Original) A sliding bearing according to claim 7, wherein the bearing alloy layer comprises a copper alloy or an aluminum alloy.

15. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a sliding bearing comprising: ~~the steps of~~  
applying a resin surface layer composition to a roughened surface of a bearing alloy layer, the resin surface

layer composition containing 20 to 95% by volume of polybenzimidazole as a base resin and 5 to 80% by volume of a solid lubricant; and

heating the resin surface layer composition so that the resin surface layer composition is hardened thereby to be formed into a resin surface layer.

16. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a sliding bearing comprising: ~~the steps of:~~

applying a bonding layer material to a roughened surface of a bearing alloy layer and heating the bonding layer material so that the bonding layer material is hardened into a bonding layer;

applying a resin surface layer composition to a surface of the bonding layer after the step of hardening the bonding layer material, the resin surface layer composition containing 20 to 95% by volume of polybenzimidazole as a base resin and 5 to 80% by volume of a solid lubricant; and

heating the resin surface layer composition so that the resin surface layer composition is hardened thereby to be formed into a resin surface layer.

17. (New) The sliding bearing of claim 1 further comprising a backing metal plate to which said bearing alloy is

bonded, said sliding bearing comprising a part of an internal combustion engine.

18. (New) The sliding bearing of claim 2 further comprising a backing metal plate to which said bearing alloy is bonded, said sliding bearing comprising a part of an internal combustion engine.